

VHF-UHF DIGEST

the official publication of the Worldwide TV-FM DX Association

FEBRUARY 1979



TRANSPACIFIC F2
TV DX TARGETS
...P. 6

WEATHER DATA
AND TROPO DX
...P. 18

BEACONS ON
50 MEGAHERTZ
...P. 25

From The Staff:

WTFDA Headquarters, P.O. Box 202, Whiting, Indiana 46394

SORRY IF WE'RE LATE...The extreme winter weather conditions that have socked in much of the Midwest slowed down the past couple of VUD editions. This month's issue may be a little delayed also. As of the deadline, most scheduled columns had not yet arrived, so we had to wait for them to "trickle" in one by one. Here's hoping winter weather doesn't foul things up any further!

NEW WESTERN TV DX EDITOR...We are very pleased to announce that Fred McCormack will be taking over the WESTERN TV DX post. Members west of the Mississippi and in the states of Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Arkansas, and Louisiana, as well as the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia are asked to send their reports of TV DX to Fred at Box 5221, State University Station, Fargo ND 58102.

FCC FM...Bruce Elving sends word that the slowdown and a lack of FCC news in recent weeks has resulted in no column this month. FCC FM should return in March.

CONVENTION '79...It really isn't too early to start planning for this year's WTFDA convention. Be sure to include Baltimore in your travel plans this August! See page 10 for more details.

PUBLICATIONS...A new edition of Beyond Shortwave is nearly ready, and don't forget about our two new FM publications, QNDAS FM (a guide to the FM stations of Central and South America) and the EDUCATIONAL FM GUIDE. Quantities are limited, so order soon!

BE PREPARED...It's wise to keep a close check on F2 skip conditions these days, for many surprises can (and probably will) result as we approach spring. TV DX by transequatorial scatter (TE) will be a very real possibility for many North American TV DXers, especially those in the South. You can keep aware of what F2 is doing by monitoring the 6-meter amateur band (50-54 MHz) for signs of transcontinental DX. If something seems to be up on a good day, keep an eye on channel 2!

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MAILBOX

John Zondlo
6617 Maryland
Hammond, IN 46323
(219) 844-8694
Deadline: 10th

New Members:

Stanley B. Jones
William Wurtzel

403 Wayne Ave.
32 W. 31st St.

Crawfordsville, IN 47933
New York, NY 10001

Renewals:

Michael Albanese, John Baumgarten, Robert Baxter, Randall Clark, Felix Collier, Richard Hawkins, Frank Hostettler, Rod Luoma, Gerald Pulice, David Rogers, Eric Schwarz, Paul Traska, Morgan Williams.

Rejoins:

Mike Mitock-975 Osborn Ave.-Lorsain, OH 44052

Address Changes:

Richard C. Evans-Box 1294-N. Wales, PA 19454

Bill Heusmann-Iowa Public Broadcasting Network-Box 1758-Des Moines, IA 50306

Renewals Due in March:

Jim Alexander, Douglass Allen, Ken Blair, Fred Born, Lynn Burke, Thomas Cornell, Emile Courcy, Richard Culin, David Curvin, Clinton Day, Wayne Fitzgerald, Bill Frahm, Ronald Green, Gerard Hart, Daryl Herzog, Guy Kroger, David Leibold, R.E. Lyons, Joe Markewicz, Pat Martin, Henry McCoy, Peter McGorty, George McKay, Greg Monti, Fred Nordquist, Guy Ogden, Jim Pizzi, Les Price, Theodore Quiroz, Mike Reid, John Robertson, Bob Seybold, James Shepherd, Takashi Shimamura, Craig Simons, Joseph Smith, Richard Steinberger, Peter Taylor, Steve West, Michael Worst, Neil Zank.

New member WILLIAM WURTZEL is a freelance writer who's also into BCB and shortwave DX. He belongs to NRC, IRCA, NNRC, ECXKA, BDXC, and NASWA. DX gear includes a Realistic Patrolman CB-8 and a GE Monitor 10. More from William in Tidbits.

Tidbits.....

Dave Walcutt (2828 Rogerdale, #108, Houston, TX 77042) has such a deal for us: "If anybody can use a copy of the latest Belden wire catalogue, which gives specifications on the different types of coaxial cable available, I can have one sent, free for the asking, since I work at an electronics distributor that stocks Belden wire. If anybody can use this, they could send me their name and address."

As you can see above, Bill Heusmann has a new address, and congratulations are in order! Bill has just landed his "dream job" as traffic manager for the Iowa Public Broadcasting Network. He previously worked at KDMI Des Moines and KANY Ankeny IA. Way to go, Bill!

It's good to have Mike Mitock back in the fold, and he's happy too: "Heaven forbid! Didn't mean to let my membership lapse - but I guess I did! I've really missed the VUD, believe me! Promise not to lapse again!"

Time limitations hamper us all, and such is the case with Dave Carvey (Box 1055, Kalamazoo, MI 49005): "There never seems to be enough time for everything. I finally got around to reading the journals the last two issues and started logging TV on 10/14/78. I've logged 40 stations, all Tr, longest is 300 miles. Not too impressive compared to reports in the journal, but it's made me very pleased. Received verifications from 21 so far. I don't imagine I'll be able to get all continents on TV (I did it on BCB 10 years ago), but my goal for now is simply to get a couple hundred veries. I'll work on quality later."

A few words now from Pierre Daigle (1017 du Long-Sault, Ste. Foy, PQ G1W 3Z8): "This summer (1978) was the worst period of DXing I ever encountered, with practically no Es, very weak tropes, and too much static. Here in Quebec City long distance propagation is reduced to nothing at all from mid-September to early April. The only exception was six years ago, an excellent Es opening occurred at the end of November (I do not remember the date). At approximately 3 o'clock in the afternoon I turned on my receiver to seek for a new station, CKRL-FM 98.1 Mhz. The pilot light glowed, but the pointer was in the 103 Mhz region. It was a North Carolina station. I tripped the pointer across the dial and dozens of stations crowded over the entire FM band. Unbelievable!! This was my first Es opening and simultaneously, my thunderbolt with long distance FM DXing."

As promised, here's a few words of introduction from William Wurtzel: "I am presently in a few other radio clubs, the IRCA, NRC, Brooklyn DX Club, NASWA, NNRC and East Coast DX Alliance in New Jersey. I am a prolific writer of poetry and limericks which are DX related, and have had a number of items published in the two medium-wave club bulletins, DX News and DX Monitor. I would like to submit some limericks to your magazine, and hope you will be receptive to DX related humor. I am located in a strong signal area, two blocks from the Empire State Building in mid-town Manhattan, NYC. I (try to) DX on a number of radios which include the Realistic Patrolman CB-8, an eight-band set, the GE Monitor 10, a ten-band, and recently acquired a used Barlow-Wadley XCR-30 radio. I also have a Realistic CTR-44 AM-FM-TV bands cassette player. My previous location was in Passaic, New Jersey - about 15 miles away. Your club claims to be the friendliest, let me see! So far it is virtually impossible to make friends in any of the other clubs I have joined. My 5,000 LP record albums are my best friends, in my 24x30 foot loft. You may invite members to contact me, and my phone number is 212-594-4892. I enjoy trading records and books. That's about it. I'm a friendly guy and like to meet people, especially DX'ers."

Member Al Ellis (19 McClure Ave., Brantford, ON N3R 4L7) has had some good DX this winter: "Was fortunate enough to be able to tape O.R., the BBC "One" program on 40.500 MHz on the 23rd of October and have a QSL card from them to prove it as well as the tape. This as you may know is method sending for QSLs is a bit of a bore and unless I can tape the station I am not sure I can say truthfully that I heard them. I have seen some of the weak claims mailed by SWLers and the possibility of their actually hearing the station is nebulous. So I tape and if the station is real DX they may get a sample copy and as a rule are very enthusiastic to its receipt. I gather from the letter and the card a number did hear the BBC Channel One, as the letter was a discourse on what Es could do. It lasted for two hours and consisted of all things kids programs most of U.S. make...one with a Brooklynese accent of all things. Now ain't that somethin'." Many thanks to Al for his kindness in repaying the club for resending a recent VUD. Because of a postal strike in his country, many VUDs were returned to HQ.

Ever seen New Zealand TV? Greg Agnew (35 Tidal Road, Mangere East, Auckland, New Zealand) tells us what it's like: "In New Zealand, like America, we have networks. But unlike ABC, NBC, CBS & PBS, our networks are owned by the Broadcasting Corporation of New Zealand (a statutory public body). The 2 networks are known as Television One and Television Two (South Pacific Television). New Zealand television operates on VHF channels 1 through 9 with the PAL system of colour and sound transmitted by FM. The test patterns used are the 'Philips PM5544' and 'BREMA Test Card P', both with full ID for both channels. In between every programme on South Pacific Television (TV2) the Eye logo has a revolving red centre about a vertical axis and voice over with details of the next programmes. The hours of TV1 daily are 2400 through to 1100 GMT (1200 through to 2300 NZST), and on TV2 0300 through to 1100 or 1200 GMT (1500 through to 2300 or 2400 NZST). TV1 received a reception report this year from Mexico. Programming on New Zealand TV is quite mixed. NZ is the biggest market for British productions and these are mixed with all the top American programmes (apart from those made by Paramount and Universal, due to a repeat (rerun) price dispute), and many of our own productions. Major productions you may have seen in the U.S. are the "Pacific Song Contest" (TV1) and "Hunters' Gold" (TV2)."

Perhaps some of you Ontario folks can be of help to David Pristupa (3437 Ortona St., Saskatoon, SK S7M 3R9): "Wanted: Toronto radio station stickers, playlists, brochures, etc., from the past. Especially wanted are playlists from CFTR (CHFI), CKFH, CHUM, CFRB & CKFM from early 70's. Also needed are tapes of station's music program portions from summer '70 to summer '72. Will trade."

This in from ANARC '79 publicity chairman Tom Gavarras: "The 1979 Association of North American Radio Clubs (ANARC) Superconvention will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on June 22-24. A full, all-wave agenda is being scheduled and participation is expected from manufacturers and international broadcasters. A more detailed list of convention activities will be released soon. For more information, send a large SASE to Association of North American Radio Clubs, 1979 Convention Committee, 3320 Grand Ave. South #305, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55408." Hope to see many of you at our club convention in Baltimore. IRCA's convention this year will be in Peoria and NRC's will be in St. Louis. See y'all next month...73....jz



SOUTH PACIFIC TELEVISION

WTFDA newswire...

Morrie S. Goldman, WA9RAQ
5815 N. Christiana Ave.
Chicago, IL 60659

FCC UHF PROBE BUILDS... The FCC has recently begun additional inquiries into UHF television engineering with plans to examine virtually all aspects of receiver and transmission technology. The goal of the Commission is improved UHF-TV performance; to increase the number of available channel allocations. In addition to studying ways to improve receiver performance, the Commission will explore such wide reaching topics as circular polarization, higher transmitter power and higher antennas, low-noise UHF preamps, better receiving antennas, teletext decoders and even stereo TV sound. We'll be watching for any actual developments.

CHEAP FM SELECTIVITY... The January issue of Audio features an interesting article entitled "Rimo FM Tuner Filters," by Richard Modafferri. Modafferri, who designed the McIntosh MR-78 and the i-f filter it uses, forecasts that the cost of high selectivity will soon come down. "When surface-wave integratable filters become available in the near future, anyone [manufacturer] will be able to market an inexpensive FM receiver with any amount of selectivity. Plastic portable radios with 100dB adjacent-channel selectivity [not alternate channel!] should cost no more than present-day sets." That figure would top even the expensive tuners of present day.

VCR UPDATE... The latest hot rumor is that a totally new generation of home video cassette recorders is already in the prototype stage. The new recorders will use 1/4" tape instead of the 1/2" types now used for Beta and VHS. All of this will be made possible by the use of the 3M developed metal particial (not oxide) tape that has already invaded the audio cassette world. The newer machines will be smaller and lower priced than current VCRs. Sony has been very quiet lately and some sources say that Sony will be first to intro this new concept. Record/play times should be a minimum of four hours per cassette and stereo audio capability will be available. Best guesses lean toward an announcement in mid to late '79, though early '80 is also a possibility. Price in US may be under \$800... Meanwhile, the long awaited Sony Betamax cassette changer is said to now be in limited national distribution, aimed at owners of the early SL-7200... JVC expects to deliver a 3 hour VHS tape in spring '79. That tape should give two-speed VHS machines a 6 hour maximum play time.

CATJ INDEX COVERS 52 ISSUES... CATJ magazine, the most technical of the CATV pubs has printed a complete index of all articles to date. CATJ is offering a reprint service, with many articles relevant to TV & FM-DXing. For a copy, send \$1 to CATJ Librarian, Suite 106, 4209 NW 23rd, Oklahoma City, OK 73107. A one-year subscription to CATJ is \$10 to WTFDAers in the US. By the way, CATJ promises future construction articles (with kits) on a 2.156Hz "simplicity down converter" for MDS and modules to build a satellite receiving station.

NEW SCA SYSTEM FROM McMARTIN... WTFDAer Neil Zank sends us an article from the Omaha World-Herald on McMartin Industries. The article quotes company president Ray McMartin as saying McMartin manufactures 80% of the SCA receivers in the world. According to the article, the company has now discovered a method to split SCA into two separate channels. It was suggested that one channel could be used for Muzak while the second could be used for computer data.

BITS... Bearcat is offering another scanner rebate program. This one runs from February 1 to March 31, 1979 and covers both the Bearcat 210 and 250. The rebate on these units is \$20. Details from your dealer... The February issue of Ham Radio Horizons features part I of an article entitled "A Guide to VHF Propagation." The article is intended for hams, but also relates to other VHF-UHF signals... Hamtronics Inc. is offering a free 40-page catalog of products including VHF/UHF converters and preamps. Hamtronics, 182 Belmont Rd., Rochester, NY 14612... The January 19th issue of HR Report detailed December's mean sunspot level at about 120, the third over-100 month for cycle 21. The publication says the rise is not scheduled to peak until 1980... The Panasonic PF-1115 reviewed in last month's VUD by Mike Hogan is available at a discount price, \$69.95 (+\$1.05 shipping), from Long's Electronics (1-800-633-6461).

SEND YOUR NEWS... Next time you spot an article in your local paper of interest to WTFDAers, send it along to this editor. WTFDA Newswire will return in April.

73, Morrie

INTERNATIONAL NOTES from

Ken Simon
528 Pilgrim
West Palm Beach, FL 33405

With reports of continued reception of the BBC1 (ch B1) and TF1 (ch F2) in the east since mid OCT '78, let us not forget the possibility of TP (Transpacific) openings.

The audio portion of New Zealand ch 1 is 50.75 MHz and the audio portion of Australia ch 0 is 51.75 MHz. This makes the following stations TP possibilities for West Coasters:

NEW ZEALAND ch 1	Wellington	Television One*	100 kw
AUSTRALIA ch 0	Waga Waga, New South Wales	A.B.C.* "ABMN"	100 kw
	Munawading, Victoria	** "ATV8"	100 kw
	Brisbane, Queensland	** "TVQ8"	100 kw
U.S. ch 2	Pago Pago, Samoa	*	40 kw
	Honolulu, Hawaii	** KHON	60 kw
	Fairbanks, Alaska	** KPAR	5.3 kw
	Anchorage, Alaska	** KENI	28.7 kw

*-GOVERNMENT, **-COMMERCIAL, A.B.C.-Australian Broadcasting Commission

--**-*--*-

Randy Clark continues to pick up BBC1 and TF1. Here in West Palm, I've had six loggings on NOV 4, 5, 19 1978. All were made about 1600 GMT using a Lafayette HA520 receiver and US type log periodic TV antenna fed by RG59U coax. I expect to have my up converter back soon thanks to Glenn Jacobs. On the BBC, no regional IDs were logged by me.

Glenn has noted the regular ID, the Northern Ireland service and the Welsh service. The Scottish service still eludes him. It appears a small portion of the programming day is given over to regional programs. Glenn has also logged the video of BBC1 on 45.00 MHz and it sounds like a hum. No visual loggings yet, but...

Via R. Nederlands DX program (you remember short wave?) we learned that WUOT FM's Glenn Hauser (Knoxville, TN) has logged the BBC1 too.

In DEC '78 QST, BBC1 and TF1 were reported on OCT 15 by WB2VWW for several days. KH6HI reported MUFs to East Coast of 47 to 48 MHz between 2000 and 2200 GMT...

It appears that BAHAMAS ZNS-TV is on the air according to newspapers received here. I haven't received ch 13 yet though. Also, has anyone logged any South American stations other than Radio Caracas TV on ch 2 and 3 in Venezuela recently? TEs to the south are predicted for early '79. Also the MUF for TAs (Transatlantics) is EXPECTED to reach 66 MHz!!! This may make Eastern Bloc FMs DXable! Just remember, this year won't be the peak...the spots are still going up. A top count of 225 is predicted for this cycle compared to a top of 200 in 1958!

New TELEGUIAS from Mexico do not list anything except the Mexico City stations. I have just received a TV listing for NOV from New Zealand if anyone is interested.

NEXT column I will list BOLIVIAN TV stations and update Dominican Republic. CONGRATULATIONS to BILL THOMPSON for the new EDITORSHIP and KUDOS to FRANK ADEN for a hell of a job.

KEEP THOSE LETTERS, CARDS and reports coming. I can be reached after 5 pm EST at 305-585-7415 (no collect calls please!).

73s KEN SIMON

Ken

February, 1979

Guidelines for reporting: When sending photos for use in this column, please include as much of the following information as possible: 1) Call letters and location of the station photographed; 2) Location of reception and distance from the station; 3) Mode of propagation by which the station was received; 4) Date (and, if possible, time) of reception. If a photo of equipment is sent, include details of the equipment shown. Color photos are acceptable only in special cases. If you have something highly unusual, but it is a color print, send it to your editor and we'll see if a way can be found to use it.



CBFT- 2 Montreal, PQ
E-skip (Simon)



KIII- 3 Corpus Christi, TX
E-skip (Combs)



WICD-15 Champaign, IL
300 mile tropo (Gaines)



KFVS-12 Cape Girardeau, MO
475 mile tropo (Gaines)



KCKT- 2 Great Bend, KS
E-skip (Pizzi)

Contributors:

Ken Simon, West Palm Beach FL

John F. Combs, Orlando FL

Paul Gaines, Detroit MI

Jim Pizzi, Orcutt CA

73 and good DX,

Jim

R-SKIP AND TR CONTINUE TO MAKE MODEST SHOWINGS

Pat Dyer, 5315 Silvertip Dr., San Antonio, TX 78228 - Nov. 1, 1978 to Jan. 1, 1979	
Equipment: Hallionrafters SI-62 with International Crystal SAI-1 preamplifier(s); Archer 6-element FM antenna at 20 ft. with rotor. CST used, new underlined, t-tentative.	
12-17	12-30
1615 WSCIt 89.3 SC Charleston, NPR 1120	1728 WLVE 94.9 WI Baraboo, wx, ad, ID 1085
1620 WPKIt 95.1 SC Charleston, soul	1730 WWRW 103.3 WI Wisconsin Rapids, "W-103"
1623 WWVZ 93.5 SC Summerville, (area ad)	1732 KLEE 97.7 IA Ottumwa, ID
1635 f/out	1737 WTMG 98.7 WI Tomah, area ads 1100
12-20 (tr)	1750 very spotty
0013 KECB 94.7 OK Oklahoma City, k, ID 420	1801 KSJT 90.1 MN Collegeville 1135
12-30	1938 KUSDt 89.7 SD Vermillion, jazz 920
1712 WPNWt 89.3 WI Green Bay 1190	1943 KLOT 92.5 SD Sioux Falls, EL 975
1718 WDOR 93.9 WI Sturgeon Bay, ad 1225	WDAT 93.7 ND Fargo 1200
KNOF 95.3 MN St. Paul, wx 1110	MUF to 96.7
1719 WDMI 99.7 MI Ironwood, ads, rk 1255	2003 KESD 88.3 SD Brookings, ID, wx 1020
1722 WUPM 106.9 MI Ironwood, "Super U", ID	2009 KJHT 93.9 SD Rapid City, rk 1040
1724 KROC 106.9 MN Rochester, ID 1060	2015 f/out

A rather skimpy winter Es showing, well in keeping with the poor summer levels on FM. Didn't try with the Geminids as main effort with the TV again. Trop conditions always do get up some and make it a mess. Dec. 20th trop very good on the TV but FM pretty well clobbered by in-state signals. 73, Pat.

Randall B. Clark, Rt. 5 Dutch Ridge, Parkersburg, WV 26101

There wasn't much FM DX except for the following: 12/17 1841-44 EST/92.9 KFIR Bismark, ND, QSLing! Tent: 2004-12/93.3 KSJM Jamestown, ND. This band opening caught me totally off guard!

FM DX is once again proving to be very lousy. I hope most of the east coast members are trying for BBC TV audio! CX has been rather fantastic for TV audio. Dec. 12th saw the MUF skyrocketing to 48.25 MHz with BBC1-B2 audio in!!!

Rick Sanford, 404 S. McNeill, Burnet, TX 78611 - Dec. 5, '78 to Jan. 4, '79 CST

This period had two tr openings, both of which were almost "good." 12/5-6 tr had weak signals (incl. the closer TX & LA stuff but at times WRBQ came in better than just about everything east of Houston, often in fairly good \$. Logging the new station & prop. modes was easier since the fringe area signals were below their usual levels for this type of opening. Judging from the ex at the various times I checked, one can safely assume that 12/19 had non-stop tr during the day. Unfortunately, the mid-day stuff was about as good as that heard during the evening. Most of these were weak but a few decent catches were heard.

We had a very severe ice storm over the New Year's Bay weekend with the temp. here dipping down to 8 F on 1/2. If our present wx pattern continues much longer, tr may take a hiatus until March. All tr except 12/6 WYOR 105.1=MS, 12/17, 30=Es, KRLB=line of sight.

12/5	12/6
2007 XHJD 98.9 NL Monterrey, ID 365	0212 WPFM 107.9 FL Panama City, ID 765
2020 WRBQ 104.7 FL Tampa "Q-105-FM" 985	promo for PFM free xmas party w/address;
w/bay area wx; in past 0200 erratically	a front thru a few hours later, so no chance
2029 WAFB 98.1 LA Baton Rouge, ID 435	for trop to redevelop.
2050 WJMI 99.7 MS Jackson, promo 500	2243 KRIX 99.5 TX Brownsville, ad 340
2128 WDBO 92.3 FL Orlando 1030	12/7
ID, "Q-92," wx	1028 XHJD 98.9 NL Monterrey 365
2143 WYFM 94.1 FL Lakeland, ID 1005	1037 IHSRO 92.5 NL Monterrey, ID
o/KQKT	1544 XHJD 98.9 NL Monterrey, "\$-99", heard
2327 KSLI 96.9 LA Alexandria, ID 355	on fairly new Radio Shack #12-665 port.
2330 WKEL 105.3 LA Slidell, "I-105" 520	2029 XHJD 98.9 NL Monterrey, obviously in
12/6	all day. All of the 12/6 p.m. & 12/7 stuff
0001 KHSRO 92.5 NL Monterrey, ID 365	due to overrunning from the Gulf; near
Monterrey now in strong \$	freezing temp. here.
0051 WRLY 106.7 FL Leesburg 1005	12/8
ads, "I-106" All of the underlined	1045 KRLB 107.1 TX Burnet, ID 2
heard prev. by Es.	testing; heard doing so since 11/29;
0115 KCIL 107.1 LA Houma, ID 470	Highland Lakes Broadcasters.
0116 KZZQ 94.3 LA Golden Meadow 500	12/17
"Z-94," wx	(weak Es; not much of a 23rd birthday pres.)
0143 WYOR 105.1 FL Coral Gables, ID	1620 WYOC 94.1 GA Savannah, ID
(via long(10+ sec.), clean MS burst	cont.

12/17

1623 WYGG 97.7 GA Vidalia, ad
 Atlanta Falcons post-game show
 1630 WSCI 89.3 SC Charleston, ID
 12/19
 0900 WAFB 98.1 LA Baton Rouge, ID 435
 0903 KHJH 98.9 NL Monterrey, plus eight
 other stations; most in good \$
 1311 WJMI 99.7 MS Jackson, "JMI" 500
 1322 WAFB 98.1 LA Baton Rouge, ID 435
 1329 WEEB 97.1 LA New Orleans, wx 500
 1336 WAGT 94.1 AL Carrollton, ID 630
 1410 WLIN 95.5 MS Jackson, ID 500
 1411 WXLN 105.3 LA Slikell, ad 520
 1419 WFMF 102.5 LA Baton Rouge, ID 435
 1448 KHSR 92.5 NL Monterrey, ID 365
 tx to Monterrey finally weakening a little
 1700 WRPM 107.9 MS Poplarville, ID 530
 1759 WJAB 107.3 FL Pensacola, ID 665
 1802 KQID 93.1 LA Alexandria 355
 "93-QUID-FM"
 1811 WFGS 89.3 FL Pensacola, ID 665
 2035 WFMF 102.5 LA Baton Rouge, ID 435
 2037 WEEB 97.1 LA New Orleans, ID 500
 2100 KTBC 92.1 TX Nacogdoches, ID 220
 2105 WAFB 98.1 LA Baton Rouge, ad 435
 2409 WKWV 92.3 LA Laplace, ad 480
 2132 KHJD 98.9 NL Monterrey, not as
 good as in afternoon
 2139 WMMX 106.7 AL Enterprise 745

12/19

2217 WLIN 95.5 MS Jackson, ID 500
 2218 WKTV 106.7 MS Vicksburg, ad 460
 2316 WXLN 105.3 LA Slidell, PSA 520
 2334 WRBQ 104.7 FL Tampa 985
 "Q105-FM" w/Becky Gordon"
 2337 WJMI 101.7 MS Collins 530
 2337 WJMI 101.5 LA Baton Rouge, ID 435
 12/20
 0750 WKTV 106.7 MS Vicksburg, ad 460
 0754 WJMI 99.7 MS Jackson, wx 500
 0800 WLIN 95.5 MS Jackson, nx
 0822 KQID 93.1 LA Alexandria, nx 355
 0826 WXLV 107.1 LA Many, ad 290
 0832 WAFB 98.1 LA Baton Rouge, ad ID 435
 0839 WMMX 106.7 AL Enterprise, "KMY" 745
 0852 WZZK 104.7 AL Birmingham, ad 705
 0900 WMMX 90.3 AL Birmingham, ID 705
 end of "Wake Up, Birmingham" w/ol wx
 0919 WAGT 94.1 AL Carrollton, I had 630
 to shut it down at 0924, hoping nothing
 else would come in. A front came thru
 shortly before noon, anyway.
 12/22
 1156 KHLS 107.1 TX Burnet, first min. on
 air w/regular programming; \$, M nx,
 12/29 (Se)
 1733 WDOF 93.9 WI Sturgeon Bay
 1736 WSPF 97.9 WI Stevens Point
 1739 KOEL 92.3 IA Osceola, wx, ID

Vernon Eaton, Rt. 1, Benton AR 72015 - Nov. 20, '78 to Dec. 31, '78

Equipment: Sony ST5130, Hor. stacked CM Stereo Probe antennas w/CD44 rotor, @ 55'
 original catches underlined; 359 stations logged including 13 new catches. "ID" means
 that an actual ID was heard, city mentioned or another definite clue!

Not much happening down here, mostly average. On Dec. 19th we had a string record
 breaking wave spill out of the SW. I found some good tropo openings from Alabama to
 N. central Mexico. I got an ID in Laredo, TX (700 mi.) & Monterrey Mexico (980 mi.). I
 couldn't develop any more catches south of the border. It was a good tropo opening
 but not as strong as some of great midwest & northeast tropo.

I have stations logged on 98 freqs. The only ones not logged are 88.1 & 98.3. I
 caught KIAZ (98.5) off the air about six hours one night & two hours the next day.
 It is a splattering type of 100,000 watt completely dominating 98.3 (3,000 watts
 or less). I was sure I would get my 99th. Both times the reception was so rotten,
 I couldn't get anything except a new catch at 98.5.

11/20

2002 WZZQ 102.9 MS Jackson, ID \$ 220
 2015 WMBW 88.9 TN Chattanooga 450
 2035 WTKV 107.7 TN Knoxville, ID 550
 11/24
 0210 KWIS 107.7 TX Beaumont, ID 360
 0213 WQLT 107.3 AL Florence, ID 310
 1100 KTEH 93.3 OK Ada, ID 230
 1828 KYKR 93.3 TX Port Arthur, ID 350
 1832 WKIQ 93.3 KY Paducah, ID 300
 1835 WQRP 93.3 MS Houston, ID 250

11/25

0405 KMKE 96.9 KS Pittsburg, ID 250
 0407 KLUT 105.1 TX Lufkin 275

12/2

0125 KWIC 107.7 TX Beaumont, ID 350
 0130 KOBS 104.5 TX Orange, ID 340
 0135 KPLX 99.5 TX Ft. Worth, \$ 285
 0145 KHOK 107.5 TX Ft. Worth, ID
 0150 WWL 101.9 LA New Orleans, ID 400

12/3

1055 WZZQ 102.9 MS Jackson, ID 250
 1105 KAJN 102.9 LA Crowley, ID 300

12/6

0754 KNUE 101.5 TX Tyler, ID
 2017 WKIQ 93.3 KY Paducah, "ID"
 2128 KCRV 103.1 MO Caruthersville, ID
 2135 WMTA 106.9 TN McKensie, ID 280

12/6

2120 WQLT 107.3 AL Florence, ID 310

12/8

0825 KKAT 93.7 OK Ardmore, ID 300
 0835 KIKK 95.7 TX Houston, ID 380
 0845 WBYU 95.7 LA New Orleans 400
 1522 WJPR 96.3 MS Jackson 250
 1720 KDMR 88.5 MO Rolla, ID 250
 1730 KETR 88.9 TX Commerce, ID 200
 1750 KPTT 90.1 TX Houston 380
 1808 KWNU 90.7 MO St. Louis, ID 330
 1835 KOBC 90.7 MO Joplin 200
 1847 KVIT 91.7 TX Dallas 275
 1849 KOSU 94.7 OK Stillwater 280
 1900 KDQM 92.7 AR DeQueen, ID, nev 120
 1927 KYKR 93.3 TX Port Arthur 350
 1940 WCPG 93.3 TX Houston 250
 2010 WJPR 96.3 MS Jackson 250
 2013 KADI 96.3 MO St. Louis 330
 2015 ESGS 96.3 TX Ft. Worth 285
 2025 KSLL 96.9 LA Alexandria 250

12/19

0855 WFFZ 97.1 TX Ft. Worth, ID 285
 0908 KZSW 97.9 TX Dallas, ID 275
 0910 KATD 97.9 TX Beaumont, ID 340
 0932 KUHF 88.7 TX Houston, ID 380
 12/19
 1025 KPTT 90.1 TX Houston 380

12/19

1030 KVTI	91.7 TX Dallas	275
1103 KSCS	96.3 TX Ft. Worth	285
1113 KBUD	92.9 TX Wichita Falls, ID	375
1116 KLUR	99.9 TX Wichita Falls, ID	375
1130 KPLI	99.5 TX Ft. Worth, ID	285
1140 WKTV	106.7 MS Vicksburg	200
1143 WYTA	106.9 MS McKensia, ID	275
1147 WNRD	106.9 TX Cenrose, ID	360
1212 KSDC	88.3 TX Keene	280
1219 KETR	88.9 TX Commerce, ID	200
1225 WMBW	88.9 TN Chattanooga	450
1313 WGIN	89.7 TN Chattanooga	
1427 WKMS	91.3 KY Murray	275
1430 KNCY	91.3 TX Killeen, "ID"	410
1510 KALN	92.5 TX Dallas, "ID"	275
1818 WKYQ	93.3 KY Paducah	300
1930 WKII	94.7 MS Jackson	250

(NOTE: Most 200-250 mi. class B/C loggings were omitted from this report since I feel they don't constitute true dx considering the unusually fine equipment used. Any comments, readers? -DB)

12/19

1945 KOYE	94.9 TX Laredo, ID, §	700
2010 KIME	104.5 MI Monterrey, ID, §	900
2057 KBJQ	102.1 TX Clear Lake	380
2228 KFMS	101.9 OK Oklahoma City, ID	310
2238 WQLT	107.3 AL Florence, ID	310
2250 KOAI	105.3 TX Dallas	275
2300 WKIR	104.1 TN Jackson, ID	220
12/20		
0812 KSNS	96.1 LA Lake Charles, ID	320
1603 WQIO	98.5 MS Tupelo	250
12/31		
0340 KJCS	103.3 TX Macogdeches, ID	240
0354 KWIG	107.7 TX Beaumont, ID	350
1355 KAKI	107.1 AR Benton, new, 1st day	6
1805 KOPC	103.9 AR Pocahtontas, ID	175
1830 WKYQ	93.3 KY Paducah, "ID"	300
1850 KJES	95.5 MO Poplar Bluff, ID	200

Heavy Rustin. 1020 S. Duncan. Stillwater. OK 74074

Greetings from the heart of the Sunbelt...er, or is it the Snowbelt now? Wintery weather has established a firm grip here, closely following last year's record breaking weather pattern, only this time it set in two weeks earlier than last year. Snow has covered the ground since New Year's Eve. It's all so unreal to think we have another bad winter on our hands while memories of last year's terrible winter are still fresh. Naturally DX here has gone into hibernation.

Last DX received here was on Nov. 24. It was a new to the air station from Parsons, MS, KLEC, 93.5, received at 2100. A new station in my area is KRMK ("Creek"), Bristol, OK, 104.9. "Creek" is the name of the county where the station is located. KRMK plays country music. Their signal is pretty good and steady for a class C station around 40 miles away. Probably a good target for you KS, MO, AR DXers. Until next month, 73.

CONVENTION '79

Make plans now to attend the 1979 WFFDA Convention August 3-5 in Baltimore! The big event will be held at Meushaw's Motor Inn, Security Boulevard and Baltimore Beltway. Tentative room rate for conventiongoers is \$22 per night for two in a room. Other room rates are still being negotiated. The total registration fee will be around the \$17 mark.

Hosts Don Blevins and Tom Yingling have several activities tentatively planned, including a tour of WMAR-TV, a Baltimore Fire Department communications lecture, a Baltimore County Fire Department public relations lecture, and a Baltimore Police Department lecture. If you'd be willing to give a lecture on any DX-related topic, please contact Don or Tom.

Baltimore is easily accessible. Interstate highways lead into the city from several directions. Most major airlines have service into Baltimore-Washington International Airport, and Greyhound, Trailways and Amtrack service are also available.

Further convention details will be forthcoming as we draw closer to the big event.

EASTERN TV-DX

Bill Thompson
1907 Seneca Street
Buffalo, NY 14210

February 1979

Deadline: 5th

Once again, a very harsh winter has kept TV DX to a minimum in much of the eastern part of North America. In addition to the severe blizzard conditions that have crippled many areas of the Midwest, there have been antenna-bending ice storms and high winds in numerous places, as well as torrential rains. Obviously, not many opportunities for good tropo conditions have come about!

No reports of midwinter E-skip activity have come in yet, but there have been a few scattered openings, so perhaps we'll see some evidence of a peak in next month's column.

Ray Barstow 70 Heritage Circle Testicket, Massachusetts 02536

"My improved 7' dish with the screening attached fell off the tower at 35' and was damaged beyond repair. The bottom of the CME rotor housing broke. This is the second CME rotor that has broken off and needless to say, I will not put the same rotor on my TRI-KX tower again. This spring or summer I will buy another 7' dish and also put screening on it and try another rotor. For the two months (October-November) I had it operating it did a great job, especially on the higher channels as you can see from my last 2 reports. To show its effectiveness I checked on 3 stations over a period from November 14 '78 to Decem 9. In this time alot I checked for WHEK-33 Burlington VT, 240 miles north; station #2 was WHEK-17 Schenectady NY, 190 miles west of me; station #3 bei WHEK-48 Philadelphia PA, 253 miles S.W. of my home. On the 21 days that I checked for these 3 stations they were in every day and night, rain or shine, with the exception of 1 day (Nov. 25), in which I could not raise WHEK-48 PA up out of the mud, although WHEK-50 Montclair NJ at 200 miles was in that day. See you next spring."

October	29 Tr 0830	WHEK-31 ND Hagerstown	3 Tr 2330	W14AA-14 VA Arlington
25 Tr 1900	Philly U's	0845	WVIR-29 VA	(WVIR-33 xltr)
28 2000	WHEK-22 ND	"This was a very	4 0010	WHEK-28 PA
	WHEK-33 VT	good night and	0030	WHEK-33 PA
	WTRA-41 VT	morning..."		WHEK-33 PA
	WHEK-16 PA	31 2000	0100	WHEK-69 PA
	WHEK-28 PA	"NJ WHP HTVs	0900	WHEK-15 VA
	WDAV-22 PA	& N.Y.C. WHPs		WHEK-16 ND
	WTFB-33 PA	& semi-locals		WHEK-20 DC
to	WHEK-15 PA	in solid, but		WHEK-22 ND
	WHP-21 PA	nothing else"	to	WHEK-26 DC
	WVIA-44 PA	November		WHEK-26 ND
	WHEK-15 VA	3 Tr 1815		WHEK-27 VA
	WVIR-51 VA	W14AA-71 CT		WHEK-28 ND
	Stamton 505	New Haven	1100	WHEK-28 ND
	W41AB-41 VA	(WHEK-24 xltr)	2100	WHEK-23 VA
	(WVIR-51 xltr)	1830	WHEK-30 xltr)	2200
	"CGI from NJ"	W59AA-59 CT	(WHEK-30 xltr)	WHEK-33 PA
29 0000	WHEK-19 TN 730	W60AI-60 NY	7 0030	WHEK-33 SO
	"in and out"	(WTVB-68 xltr)	8 1600	WHEK-22 VT
0040	WHEK-25 ND	to		WHEK-11 CT
0050	WHEK-18 NY	W64AA-64 NY	17 1000	WHEK-52 NY
	WISZ-40 NY	(WHEK-5 xltr)	to	WHEK-15 NY
	WSEK-46 NY	W61AC-61 CT	1030	WVIA-41 VT
0100	WFMZ-69 PA	(WHEK-49 xltr)	29 ON	WVIA-68 MA
0125	WHEK-21 PA	1900	30	WHEK-28 MA
0210	WDCA-20 DC	W62AA-62 NJ		"am testing
0220	WVIA-44 PA	(WHEK-47 xltr)		both evenings"
0230	W64AA-64 PA	1930		December
	Susquehanna	WHEA-26 DC	4 Tr 1600	WHEK-33 PA
	W66AC-66 PA	WHEK-15 VA		WHEK-33 PA
	Lake Ariel	WBOC-16 ND		"Weird ox; WVIR in
	(WVIA-44 xltrs)	WATB-22 ND		fair to good for
	unID 55 or 56	WCEB-22 ND		1 hour & gone..."
	(WVIA-44 xltr)	WHEF-45 ND		5 1915
0810	WVIR-39 PA	WHEK-67 ND		GIVE-17 QBT? T
		2200		
		WFMZ-69 PA		
		2230		
		WHEK-66 VA		
		Manassas		
		2300		
		WVIR-53 VA		

Rob Grant 5775 Bishop Detroit, Michigan 48224

August 1978

21 Tr 0600	WHEK-28 PA	375	23 Tr 0320	WHIO-7 OH	195	25 Tr 0220	WTAJ-10 PA	270
23 0245	WCPO-9 OH	240	25 0115	WHDU-16 IN	170	Also logged: CFTO-9 OH,		
			0210	WHEK-46 IN	170	WSTV-9 OH, WGR-2 NY		

off Wolf 1131 University Blvd. W. Apt. 701 Silver Spring, Maryland 20902			une 1978			0 Tr 0032			W44AA-44 WV			0141			WNCT-9 NC?			T 20 Tr 0813			WTVG-68 NJ		
Martinsburg 60			18 Es			0110			unID-27			0242			WITN-7 NC			Newark			192		
(WWVU-24 xltr)			Es 0230			1041			WTHS-2 FL 900			1045			unID-3			"Most stations in			till 1000. WJPM-33		
"local off"			19			1046			WTHS-2 FL 900			1047			WTHS-2 FL 900			and WRLK-35? in and			out till 0938. Best		
1041			Tr			2316			WNJT-52 NJ? T			2327			WNJS-23 NJ? T			tropo opening I've			seen."		
1042			Es			1116			MUF ch 4			0203			unID-27 CCI			2213			unID-11 CBS		
1116			1130			1130			WRDU-3 FL? T			0238			unID-11			2327			unID-58		
1200			1224			1224			MUF ch 5			0522			unID-12			2340			unID-68		
1330			1434			1434			KBTX-3 TX 1245			0526			WNCT-9 NC			21			0011		
"audio o/WMAR"			1500			1500			KCKT-2 KS? T			0541			unID-11 CBS TP			0015			WVBC-13 VA		
1600			1600			1600			KCBS-3 LA 983			0001			WNJS-23 NJ			0200			WABC-7 NY		
1730			1730			1730			KMTV-3 NE 950			0100			WTAP-29 PA			0230			unID-67 3/4 CB		
1850			1850			1850			KTFW-2 OK? T			0110			WTVG-11 NC 235			0241			WTVG-11 NC		
2255			2255			2255			"Cuba-3? CCI"			0206			unID-9			0321			WCBS-2 NY		
July			1 Es			0011			unID-2 CCI			0220			WPVI-6 PA			0334			unID-4 w/tones		
1 Es			Tr			0130			WGL-8 PA			0223			unIDs on 11			0507			WNEW-5 NY 200		
3 Es			1527			1527			unID-2 CCI			0227			WGR-9 NY			0515			WNET-13 NY		
4			1156			1156			unID-2 ABC			0259			WCBS-2 NY			0517			unIDs on ch 7		
5			1945			1945			unID-2 CCI			0325			WPIX-11 NY			0541			unID-12		
6 Tr			1010			1010			unID-3			0340			WABC-7 NY			0557			WTHS-8 CT		
Es			1010			1010			unID-3			0450			WNEW-5 NY			0609			WRDU-28 NC		
Tr			2300			2300			WNJS-23 NJ			0523			WNET-13 NY			0611			unID-27 TP		
8			0322			0322			WGBS-2 NY			0525			WNCT-9 NC 243			0700			unID-27 ABC		
0612			WABC-7 NY			WABC-7 NY			New York 200			0551			CGI on WLEX-8			0800			WNET-13 NY		
New York 200			"local off"			2238			unID-33			0631			WRET-36 NC			22 Es			1738		
2238			2237			2237			W44AA-44 WV			0638			unID-18 "WGBS?"			1740			MUF ch 5		
"w/ slight CCI"			0004			0004			unIDs on 15			0703			WRDU-28 NC			1800			WPBT-2 FL		
0948			0948			0948			unIDs 33, 44			0711			WJPM-33 SC			1945			KATC-3 LA? T		
11 Es			1103			1103			unIDs 2,3 PBS			0725			WTVG-11 NC			2000			WRDU-3 FL 846		
1337			1337			1337			"Cuba-3" TP			0751			WTVG-11 NC			23 Tr			0953		
2203			2203			2203			KDAL-3 MN 937			0755			WTVG-11 NC			24 Es			1226		
2233			2233			2233			MUF ch 4			0757			WRLK-35 SC? T			25			0929		
2330			2330			2330			KDLG-3 SD			0757			WTVG-11 NC			26			1930		
12			1245			1245			unID-3 HBC			0757			WTVG-11 NC			27 Tr			0954		
1710			1710			1710			MUF ch 4			0757			WTVG-11 NC			28			0946		
2000			2000			2000			WRDU-3 FL 846			0757			WTVG-11 NC			30			0400		
13 Tr			0245			0245			WJKB-8 OH			0757			WTVG-11 NC			31 Es			1029		
Cleveland 294			0016			0016			unID-11 CCI			0757			WTVG-11 NC			31 Es			1029		
0120			0120			0120			unID-9 CBS			0757			WTVG-11 NC			31 Es			1029		
"local off"			0120			0120			unID-9 CBS			0757			WTVG-11 NC			31 Es			1029		

Donald B. Ruland 4448 68th Place Kenosha, Wisconsin 53142 (CST)											
October											
30 Tr 0650 CHLFTS-68 ON 1 Tr 0500											
0545 Lexington U's Baria 290 WCPO-9 OH 300											
0600 WVIZ-25 OH 330 CICOB-18 ON 340 0515 WUAB-43 OH 330											
WAKR-23 OH 360 CICOB-28 ON 400 0515 WAKR-23 OH 340											
0630 WJWL-24 PA 400 November 0530 WKBN-27 OH 380											
WSRB-35 PA 400 1 Tr 0430 WTRF-7 WV 420 0530 WHIZ-18 OH 360											
0645 WPRB-42 OH 370 WILQ-11 PA 430 WFGH-53 PA 430											
WDRB-41 KY 330 WKRC-12 OH 300 0645 WPMJ-21 OH 380											
0650 CHLFT2-40 ON 340 0445 WTVV-33 OH 380											
CHLFT-76 ON 400 WBSN-10 OH 320 WOSU-34 OH 380											
KPLR-11 MO 300 WPBO-42 OH 370											

IN SEARCH OF PCS

Donald L. Blevins
1715 Earhart Road
Baltimore, MD 21221
phone #301-574-2714

IN SEARCH OF TRENDS.....The vast spectrum of public service frequencies reflect a growing trend of change. Several factors influence an agency's desire for change. This can take place on any frequency, but it is foremost on lowband VHF. This can take place when E-skip propagation or F-2 propagation takes place, sometimes to the extent of preventing an agency's reception of its own mobile units, but more often occurs when mobile units cannot copy their other mobile counterparts.

The second most frequent type of propagation occurs on VHF-High Band. Because of tropospheric propagation, agencies on the same frequency often experience from each other. On such example is the frequency 156.21. This frequency is assigned to a number of agencies in Southern New Jersey (otherwise referred to as the South Jersey Net) Norfolk, Virginia, and formally Anne Arundel County, Maryland. Anne Arundel County (located in Baltimore's Southside) is situated about mid-way between South Jersey and Norfolk. Summertime tropo opening, Anne Arundel often received unbearable interference from both agencies.

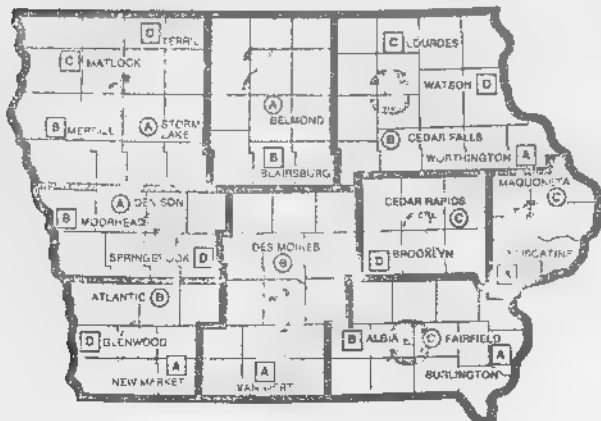
Another interesting affect with high-band VHF is cascading. This occurs when the input of a repeater is being fed by the output or base frequency of another. One example is in the case of Camden, NJ's Fire Department base on 153.77 mhz. feeding Howard County, MD's base, who's output is on 154.25. It takes a tropo opening for this affect to occur, but it does happen!

Anne Arundel County found a solution to the problem...change to UHF. A move to UHF generally means operating on standard inputs and outputs, eliminating the cascading from occurring.

This month's feature will take a look at one such agency that move from old frequencies on old band to VHF-High Band. This comes as a courtesy from Michael Schoel of Davenport, Iowa. THANKS MIKE.....

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION



LEGEND

- COMMUNICATIONS BASE STATION/REPEATER
- REMOTE REPEATER

STATEWIDE

BASE TX/MOBILE RX MOBILE TX/MOBILE RX

AREA ONE			
155.640	DPS/DCE	154.690	
155.780	LEA	154.770	
AREA TWO			
155.855	DPS/BSE	154.795	
155.890	LEA	154.830	
AREA THREE			
155.845	DPS/BSE	154.885	
155.700	LEA	154.900	

STATEWIDE SIMPLEX FREQUENCIES

MUTUAL AID
155.475
CAR TO CAR
155.630

ZONE CODED SQUELCH ACCESS

ZONE A 127.3 MZ
ZONE B 148.2 MZ
ZONE C 167.8 MZ
ZONE D 127.8 MZ



VHF UTILITY DX

Pat Dyer
5315 Silvertip Drive
San Antonio, TX 78228
Deadline: 5th of month

FEBRUARY 1979

Randall B. Clark, Route 5 - Dutch Ridge, Parkersburg, WV 26101 GMT

ORTF (41.25 TV audio) France

<u>12-1:</u> 1541-1545	4: 1810-1832	13: 1345-1625
1610-1626	1938-1948	<u>16:</u> 1518-1545
4: 1508-1515	7: 1444-1536	
1744-1748	<u>12:</u> 1448-1729	

BBC-1 (41.50 TV audio) England (* Divis, Northern Ireland)

<u>11-27:</u> 1519-1538	6: 1505-1511 *	9: 1600-1622
<u>12-1:</u> 1520-1550	7: 1422-1507	10: 1557-1615
1707-1830*	1530-1536	<u>12:</u> 1435-1729
2: 1538-1755	1644-1740	<u>13:</u> 1405-1510
4: 1425-1555	8: 1428-1435	<u>14:</u> 1400-1710
5: 1630-1636	1453-1458 *	<u>16:</u> 1425-1615
<u>6:</u> 1412-1438	1620-1636	

(48.25 TV audio) 12-12: 1530-1605 (note MUF fell from 48.25 thru 41.50 1722-1725 in some 4 minutes)

Radio France International (R.F.I.) 43.17 2nd harmonic sw broadcast

<u>12-6:</u> 1420-1725	<u>12-14:</u> 1340-1630 (also possible R. Sweden harmonic 43.15-.19)
<u>12:</u> in most of time	
BBC-1 in	<u>16:</u> 1500-1615

Bob Billings, WB2RLK/VEL, RR 1, Bridgewater, NS, Canada B4V 2V9 TR-6 & 11-el beam for 6-m; GMT

12-12: 1813 WA7ECY (OR), 1815 K7KV (WA)
13: 1350-1445, video buzz to 52.5
15: 1350-1450, Colombia to 52.5 & backscatter W1,2,4
16: 1405, brief 50/ Colombia

Other 50-MHz news items - ZB2VHF on as of late Dec with new beacon (fsk) at 50.035; the old Gibraltar beacon (50.003) heard in the Canal Zone Dec 12,13,14,15 around 1315-1345z... Dec 23 good Japan to New Zealand opening ... Dec 30, 2335z, W9RT (KS) heard in Guam; Guam also with several days into Alaska ... Dec 16, 1430z, Ecuador into W2 & Colombia to W3 ... Dec 18, 2045z, Hawaiian beacon into New Mexico

weekly 10-m net (28.885) at 1700z Sundays to discuss VHF DX (mostly 6-m)

Solar flux peak of 237 in mid Dec the highest since June 1969. In fact, only about 6 days in all of Cycle 20 had a higher flux. (peak day of it was 262). Dec avg of 178 best since peak avg month of prior cycle (Jan 1968, 189). Smoothed value (Jun) of 141 best since late 1970.

Latest Swiss sunspot smoothed predictions, Jan 127, Feb 132, Mar 136, Apr 139.

W1AW phone bulletins (see latest QST) contain propagation report and outlook prepared by Ed Tilton, W1HDQ.

WWV has recently been updating the solar flux (Ottawa taken at 1700z) on the 1818z bulletin instead of waiting until the 0018z one.

Now, my loggings. Hallcrafters SX-62, Hammarlund SP-600-JX-10, Allied A-2586, Patrolman (c. 1967); two 30' long-wires at 12' with ne-sw & nw-se runs; all F2 unless noted (* Es) with daily peak MUF's; new underlined, GMT used (49.5+ MHz with Swan 250 + Ameco nuviator pre-amplifier, 5-element horizontal Cushcraft Yagi at 23' with rotor)

12-6:

1742 KOP303 35.46 Langley, WA-mp
2005 37's US

12-7:

1514 KCA346 37.54 Ellsworth, ME-he
1635 39.70 Spanish
1640 low-38 Canada
1659 KDA381 33.90 Wilton, NH-f
1700 KCJ825 33.94 Bedminster, NJ-"
KCA410 33.90 Wareham, MA-"
KBR354 " Rockville Center, NY-f

1830 KOP303 35.46

12-8:

1555 35.78 Brazil ?
1800 35 US Pacific nw ?

12-9:

1520 36.8 Can ?, 1800 35's US

12-10:

1820 35's US

12-11:

1449 KEC515 35.58 Albany, NY-tp
1455 KCA346
1657 KEP954 33.86 Mahwah, NJ-f
1659 KCB526 33.70 Kennebunkport, ME-"
1701 KCI315 33.64 Beacon Falls, CT-"
1702 KCL224 33.86 Limerick, ME-"
KCG249 33.70 Southbury, CT-vf
2100 ESV810 33.08 Portland, OR-ho

12-12:

1530 - 35.58 Scranton, PA-vp
1534 - 35.22 Wilkes-Barre, "
1535 ORTF 41.25 France (TV audio)
1550 BBC-1 41.50 England (")
1600 US 39's, 1628 KOP303 35.46
1629 KBA860 35.22 NY, NY-tp
1634 KOA796 35.58 Portland, OR-tp
1652 tent 45-video buzz England
1831 KCC405 37.54 Bangor, ME-he
1934 KCK418 35.46 (west)-mp
1944 KUA288 35.22 Portland, OR-tp
2015 - 35.26 Seattle, WA-mp

12-13:

1641 KUA288, 1643 KOA796
1658 KCB404 33.82 Ashburnham, MA-f
KCB526
1659 KDC288 33.90 Hollis, NH-"
KCG249
1700 KCD497 33.64 Buzzards Bay, MA-"
KCD582 33.70 Harvard, "
1701 KBZ283 33.90 Orford, NH-rf
1702 KCH954 33.70 N Brandford, CT-f
1706 KLB98 33.66 Redwood City, CA-sf
1750 HI-37 US, 2029 mid-38 Canada?
12-14:
1644 low-42 Spanish
1648 Scranton, 1845 HI-37 US

12-15:

1615 47.60, 48.60 backscatter ?
1709 KBA860
1900 KOB238 37.48 Seattle, WA-light
1912 KCI299 35.22 New Haven, CT-tp
1920 KUA288, 1932 KOK418
2043 KLP527 35.22 Honolulu, HI-tp
2049 KOP303 35.46

12-16:

1425 HI-46 Spanish
1631 KCI299, KBA860
1634 Scranton
1657 KCB209 33.9- Waterford, C"
1658 KCA639 33.90 W Wareham, M
KDA383 " Milford, NH-"
1659 KDC288
1700 KEY999 33.80 Coesmans Hollow, NY-vf

KCA410 33.90 Wareham, MA-f
1702 KCD371 33.98 Raynham, "
1915 HI-37 US, 2200 KOA796
2202 KUA288, 2205 KEC515
2244 KOP303 35.46

12-17:

1555 low-45 Spanish
1652 KEX909 33.78 Verona, NJ-f
1654 KEF451 " Toms River, "-cf
2035 mid-37
2043 KIF651 35.58 Ft. Lauderdale, FL-tp *

12-18:

1614 49.68, 1740 low-33 US
2218 KIF508 35.22 Orlando, FL-tp *

12-19:

1559 KCA695 33.78 Manchester, NH-f
1643 Scranton, 1645 Wilkes-Barre
1652 HI-41 Canada
1659 KBA323 37.18 New City, NY-sp
KCB591 " " "-p

2000 KOP303 35.46

12-20:

1555 mid-HI 41 Spanish
1645 KCB82 35.22 Concord, NH-vp
1659 KDC288, KDA383; 1700 KCA410
1825 KOK418
1902 KCA305 37.54 Eddington, ME-u
1905 KCC405, 2121 KOA796
2324 KLP527

12-21:

1835 mid-37 US
1851 KOP303 35.46, 1853 KBA860
1902 KUA288, 2245 KLP527

12-22:

1530 mid-43 Spanish
1700 KCA410 33.92
1701 KCG964 33.76 Terryville, CT-f
1704 KCH954, 2143 KUA288

VHF UTILITY DX

FEBRUARY 1979

12-22:
2230 KLF527
12-23:
1445 US 30-32
12-24:
1715 US 30-32, low-33 Can
1955 35.22 Spanish
12-25:
1822 KEA860, 1834 KOA796
1840 KCI299, 1902 KUA288
12-26:
1643 mid-42 Spanish
1847 mid-38 Canada ?
1917 KLF527, 1923 KUA288
2036 KCF574 33.70 Mashpee, MA-f
12-27:
0132 KSC645 35.58 Chicago, IL-tp *
1632 KCB360 33.70 Leominster, MA-f
KCC825 " Kennebunk, ME- "
1643 KCF574, 1659 KDA383, KDA381
1700 KCB360 33.60, KCD497, KCD582
1702 KCL224, 1807 mid-37 US
1815 KOP303 35.46, 1823 KUA288
12-28:
1643 KBZ283
1853 KOP303 35.46, 1855 KOA796
2040 KEA860, 2102 low-41 Spanish
2105 hi-37 US
2110 " 35.6- NY, NY-mp
2126 KUA288
2135 KCE816 33.98 Southington, CT-f
2137 KCE721 33.70 Litchfield, " "
2139 KCC960 33.72 Bloomfield, " "
2144 KXV489 33.94 Granby, " "
2150 KCE670 33.86 Norwalk, " "
2153 KDV438 33.82 Port Reading, NJ- "
2157 KCC493 33.94 Simsbury, CT- "
2159 KDC288, KDA383, KCA695
2200 KCD384 33.94 Manchester, CT- "
2203 KCH954
2204 KCB587 33.98 Wayland, MA- "
12-29:
2015 KCA305, 2019 KCA346
20-- KCA585 33.90 Plymouth, MA-f
2150 hi-37 US
2201 KDP398 33.70 Dayton, NY- "
2202 KOP474 33.78 Tuckerton, NJ- "
2209 KCK418, KEA860, 2211 KCI299
2216 KOA796, 2219 KOP303 35.46
2226 KUA288, 2230 38.02 Russian
2244 KCF582 33.70 Thomaston, ME-f
2245 KCD497
2248 KCC921 33.90 Old Lyme, CT- "
12-30:
1730 Wilkes-Barre, KCA305
1735 low-40 Spanish, hi-37 US
1834 KLF527, 1843 KUA288
2002 KOA796
12-31:
1700 mid-37 US
1706 KHZ270 33.9- Fenton, NY-f
1846 KUA288
1-1:
1600 Wilkes-Barre, ORTF, BBC-1
1602 KEA860, Scranton
1605 US 39's, 1635 KBC515

1-1:
1712 KCI299, 1725 KUA288
1758 KCA305
1-2:
1605 BBC-1, 1615 ORTF
1631 KEC515, 1636 KEA860
1645 hi-37 US
1659 KGC524 33.78 Georgetown, DE-sf
KGD273 33.7- Forest Hill, MD-f
1755 KOP303 35.46, 1759 KDC288
1909 KUA288, 2305 KLF527
1-3:
1700 KBH354, 1704 KUA288
1800 KOP303 35.46, 1845 low-38 Can
1850 hi-37 US, 1933 KOB238
2052 KLF527
1-4:
1405 hi-45 Spanish, 1645 KEA860
1659 KDJ825
KEI744 33.94 Gladstone, NJ-f
1702 mid-39 US, 1722 KCA346
1733 KCA305, 1742 KCI299
1802 KCC405, 1809 KOP303 35.62
1810 KOP303 35.46, 1815 KOA796
1825 KUA288, 1910 KLF527
1942 KCD482
2228 KEM734 33.94 Canton, CT-f
2233 KCC284 33.90 Tolland, " "
2245 KCE537 33.70 Sterling, MA- "
2249 KCH469 33.54 Shutesbury, " "
2258 KCC785 33.70 Ogunquit, ME- "
KCD658 " Westminster, MA- "
2259 KCC997 " York Beach, ME-vf
KCD306 " York, "
KCD244 " Falmouth, MA- f
2301 KCD511 " Camden, ME- "
KJE253 33.54 Gill, MA- "
2302 KVA379 33.84 W Albany, NY- "
2303 KCB360 33.60
2304 KCB844 33.70 Greenfield, MA- "
KCA633 33.90 Middleboro, " "
2307 KCC672 33.9- S Windsor, CT- "
2310 KCE816
KCE246 33.58 Yarmouth, MA- "
2314 KCG711 33.54 Hamden, CT- "
2315 KDC288
KDG722 33.66 Littleton, MA- "

1-5:
1635 mid-40 Can, 1645 KCI299
1646 KEA860
1657 KCA460 37.18 E Hartford, CT-p
1700 KEI744, 1701 KCI315, KCH954
1703 Scranton, KOP303 35.46
1715 mid-39 Mass, 1734 KCA305
2025 KUA288, 2028 KLF527

f-fire (c-county, r-regional, s-state,
v-volunteer), h-hydroelectric,
h-hospital, mp-mobile phone,
p-police (c-sheriff), tp-tone pager,
vp-voice pager, u-utility

73. Pat WA5ITX

50 MHz BEACONS

For those with receivers that can tune the 6-meter amateur radio band, we present a list of 50 MHz propagation beacons gathered from various sources:

<u>FREQUENCY (MHz)</u>	<u>CALLSIGN</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
50.003*	ZB2VHF	GIBRALTAR (British)
50.018	WA1EKN	Maine, U.S.A.
50.023	HH2PR	Port-au-Prince, HAITI
50.025 (FSK)	6Y5RC	Kingston, JAMAICA
50.029	ZS6PW	Pretoria, SOUTH AFRICA
50.050	VE6NAB	Alberta, CANADA
50.055	WA9FEF	South Elgin, Illinois
50.080	TI2NA	San Jose, COSTA RICA
50.080	W1AW	Newington, Connecticut
50.085	HL9WI	KOREA
50.088	VE1SIX	New Brunswick, CANADA
50.095	W7KMA	Phoenix, Arizona, U.S.A.
50.100	3D3AA	FIJI
50.100	5W1AR	SAMOA (Western)
50.100	ZK1AA	COOK ISLANDS (N.Z.)
50.100	K7INZ	Apache Junction, Arizona
50.100	CH9TS	EASTER ISLAND
50.101	F08BR	TAHITI (French)
50.101	WA6MHZ	San Diego, California
50.104	FK3VHF	FRANCE
50.104	KH6BQI	Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
50.110	JD1YAA	Minami Torishima (Japan)
50.110	KG6JDK	GUAM (U.S.)
50.500	5B4CY	CYPRUS

* --recently reported on 50.035 MHz with new transmitter

Like navigation beacons, these propagation beacons are easily identified, as they automatically identify continuously! Most of these transmitters use unmodulated CW (A1) emissions, although at least one employs FSK (frequency shift keying), for which RTTY (teletype) gear is required.

Additionally, there are propagation beacons operating above 52 MHz in New Zealand and Australia, since 50 MHz is used for television broadcasting "down under"...we'll run a list of these in a future issue.

Keep in mind that these beacons are run for the most part by individual amateurs for propagation research, and may have erratic schedules. Some of the above beacons may have changed frequency by the time this appears in print, so listen for them by callsign, rather than relying primarily on frequency!

Amateur radio operators listen for these transmitters to determine if the band is "open", so whenever you hear one of these signals, you can expect the lower part of the 6-meter band to fill up with the SSB transmissions used by the many avid DX-chasers who frequent the area just above 50.1 MHz.

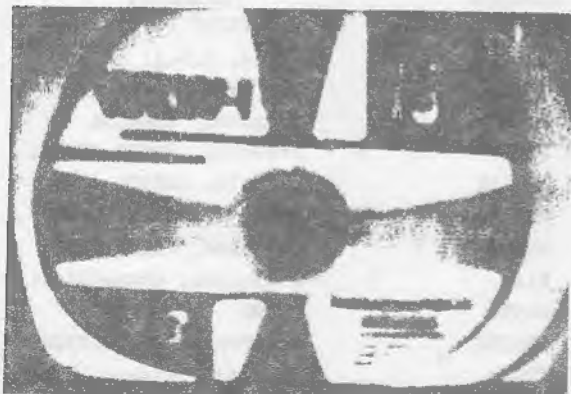
-KA2ABB

Memorabilia

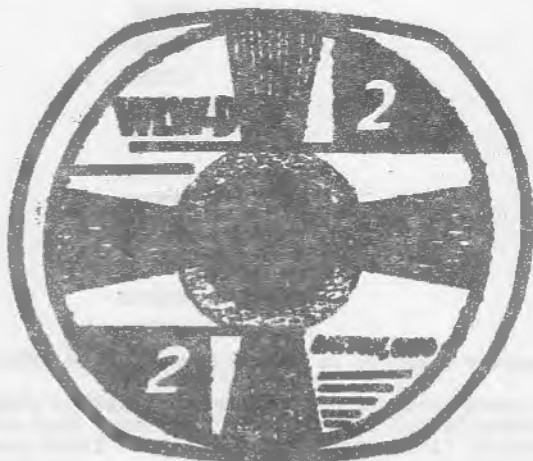
February 1979

Robert J. Williams
251 6th Avenue East
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301
Phone: 733-3621 (Area C, 208)
Deadline: 6th of month

This month, MEMORABILIA presents two more memorable test patterns of TV-DXing's past. Pictures submitted by Robert Kramer of Carbondale IL. Thanks very much, Bob!



WLW-I 13 Indianapolis IN
(now WTHR-13)



WLW-D 2
(now WDTN-2)

Dayton OH

Well, that's it for this month, guys. See y'all in 30. 73s, gud DX,

Bob

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